



*For Immediate Release*  
May 16, 2006

*Contact:* Steve Capps  
(916) 405-7175

## **CSD Reaches Agreement With Landowner For Purchase Option of 40-Acre Laguna Ridge Park Site**

**Elk Grove, Calif.** – The Elk Grove Community Services District has reached agreement with an Elk Grove couple for the option of purchasing their 40-acre ranch for creation of a large park along Poppy Ridge Road south of Elk Grove Boulevard.

The owners, long-time area residents Nancy and Dr. Jack Reardan, approached the CSD about selling the property in the Laguna Ridge planning area of Elk Grove. After several weeks of negotiations, the Board of Directors of the CSD voted Monday night to enter into the purchase option agreement.

Under the terms of the agreement, the CSD will have the option to purchase the property at fair market value as determined by a property appraisal. The option, which protects the property from any development and preserves it for a park, will cost \$150,000 a year. The option money paid will be applied directly to the purchase price of the property. The agreement also includes a lease development feature, which would allow the CSD to begin developing park facilities on the property before the purchase is executed.

Nancy Reardan, a retired attorney, said the couple came to the CSD because “the CSD has demonstrated expertise in the development and maintenance of Elk Grove’s parks.”

In a letter to the CSD, Mrs. Reardan said the City of Elk Grove had notified them that it planned to use the 40 acres for a park, and indicated that it could use its eminent domain powers to take the property if the couple did not agree to the City’s terms. The couple, however, said they wish to live out the remainder of their lives in their “dream house.” Nancy Reardan is 77 years old and her husband is 80. “We built our dream house to live here until we died, which may not be too many years,” she said in the letter.

Under the agreement with the CSD, the couple will be allowed to remain on the property as long as they wish. However, most of the property could still be developed as a park in the meantime.

“This is a wonderful site for a park, in a strategic location in our community,” said Donna Hansen, General Manager of the Elk Grove CSD. She noted that other property owners in the immediate area include the Elk Grove Senior Center, the Elk Grove Unified School District and the Los Rios Community College District.

“We look forward to working with the schools, the Senior Center and our other partners in developing public facilities in this area of Elk Grove that will serve our residents for generations,” Hansen said. “We invite the City of Elk Grove to join us at the table and work with the CSD and its partners in bettering our community.”

The Elk Grove CSD is an independent public agency that oversees all parks, recreation, fire protection, and emergency medical services within a 106-square mile district, including the city of Elk Grove. It operates 70 parks, two community centers, two aquatic complexes and four recreational centers. It currently is adding improvements to its skate park, which is scheduled to reopen this summer at the Wackford Community and Aquatic Complex .

Visit the CSD web site at [www.egcsd.ca.gov](http://www.egcsd.ca.gov) and subscribe to the Friends of the CSD e-mail service to receive the latest news and special updates on CSD issues, events and activities.

# # #